Atomic Energy Regulatory Board and the Ministry of Environment and Forest who will ensure that there is no adverse impact on the environment.

World Bank Loan for Development of Atomic Energy

447. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the World Bank approved a loan of Rs. 40 crores dollars for development of Atomic Energy; and

(b) whether Government propose to start new project with this aid, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Future of Kaiga Nuclear Power Plant

448. SHRI J. P. JAVALI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that even after spending Rs. 500 crores in the Kaiga Nuclear Power Plant, it is still not progressing satisfactorily and is behind schedule;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the details thereof; and

(c) what steps are being taken to complete the project early, and the time schedule fixed for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) No, Sir. The progress of the project consisting of two units of 220MWe each is satisfactory and is as per schedule.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The project is progressing as per schedule. The first unit is expected to achieve criticality in June 1996 and the second unit in December, 1996.

Supply of Nuclear Fuel to Tarapur Atomic Power Station

449. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that USA is contemplating to use Tarapur Atomic Power Station as a lever to get India sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) by threating to stop fuel supply to Tarapur Station;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government have taken or propose to take to ensure that Tarapur Station from being closed down in the absence of foreign fuel supply to it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) to (c) The United State of America stopped the fuel supply to Tarapur Atomic Power Station (TAPS) in 1980, when the last consignment of fuel for TAPS from them was received.

In 1983 a contract was concluded with the French Government for supply of Low Enriched Uranium (LEU) for a period of 10 years for TAPS. The French have already supplied all the fuel under this contract. As for future supply of LEU for TAPS by France, they had indicated sometime back that it would be on the condition of India accepting full scope International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Safeguards.

In the absence of LEU, TAPS could be operated Mixed Uranium Plutonium (MOX) fuel for which the technology has been developed indigenously. It is also possible to consider operating TAPS using indigenously produced LEU, for which the requisite technology is available.

Fire in the Narora Nuclear Power Plant

450. DR. JINENDRA KUMAR JAIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Inquiry Committee set up to investigate the Narora Nuclear Power Plant fire incident of March 31, 1993, has submitted two separate reports assigning different reasons for the fire;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

(c) what is the evaluation of Government in this regard; and

(d) what action Government propose to take on these reports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) There were two inquiry Committees set